

MINUTES
CITY OF WOODSTOCK
CULTURAL AND SOCIAL AWARENESS COMMISSION
August 30, 2021

A Special Meeting of the City of Woodstock Cultural and Social Awareness Commission was called to order at 4:22 PM on Monday, August 30, 2021 by Chairperson Juanita Vega. This meeting was held per the Governor's Emergency Order due to COVID-19 with all members, Staff and the public attending remotely.

A roll call was taken.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS: None

COMMISSION MEMBERS ATTENDING REMOTELY: Jaci Krandel, Jose Rivera, Crystal Squires and Chairperson Juanita Vega.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: John Kendall and Joe Starzynski

STAFF PRESENT IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS: None

STAFF ATTENDING REMOTELY: Human Resources Director/Staff Liaison Deb Schober and City Clerk Cindy Smiley

OTHERS ATTENDING REMOTELY: None

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Motion by C. Squires, second by J. Rivera, to accept the minutes of the July 12, 2021 meeting and the August 2, 2021 meeting as presented.

Ayes: Rivera, Squires and Chairperson Vega. Nays: none. Abstentions: Krandel. Absentees: Kendall and Starzynski. Motion carried.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Program – Marketing and Advertising

Ms. Schober acknowledged the work of Commissioner Squires in creating a great flyer for the DEI events. She stated in the interest of time, the creation of the individual flyers for the monthly events has been taken over in-house so they are available right away to get on the City's website. She stated City staff will work on creating the project's Facebook page and noted the events are being placed on the Community Events Sign every month. Ms. Schober stated she is providing electronic versions of the flyers to the Commission members so they can distribute them as well.

b. Update on activities from the meeting coordinators

September 12 – Religions (Jaci Krandel)

Commissioner Krandel stated the presenters for this event are lined up, noting individuals will present information on Faithbridge, Judaism, Islam, Bahá'í and Buddhism. She expressed concern that she will be unable to attend due to a family commitment. A brief discussion ensued of the availability of additional flyers. Ms. Schober noted the individual flyer for this event was attached to the e-mail that was sent to all Commission members and has been put on the City's website with only the poster featuring all events printed out.

Chairperson Vega noted the Square will be very busy on September 12 as that is also the day of the Mexican Independence Day event. She urged everyone to invite their families and friends to stop by the Opera House and learn about the different religions.

In response to a question from Ms. Schober as to what assistance will be needed for the event, Commissioner Krandel stated there may be four speakers. Ms. Schober stated the contact for the Opera House is Daniel Campbell, suggesting Commissioner Krandel speak with him about her needs such as tables and chairs, microphones, screen, PowerPoint equipment, etc.

A brief discussion ensued of topics to be covered by the presenters. Chairperson Vega suggested they explain their respective religions and the similarities and differences between their religion and the others. Ms. Schober suggested creating a PowerPoint ahead of time to introduce the speakers, suggesting a member of the InterFaith Council could help with this.

Chairperson Vega stated she will try to be present to welcome everyone should Commissioner Krandel be unavailable, and has napkins and silverware left, if needed.

Ms. Schober reminded the Commission members there is money left in the Commission's account should anyone wish to purchase refreshments for their event.

In response to a question from Chairperson Vega, Ms. Schober stated sponsor information has not been placed on the flyers, as the sponsorship monies have not been received. She stated she has spoken with the sponsor who informed her the check was mailed last Friday. Ms. Schober noted upon receipt of the check, she will place the information on the flyers.

October 10 – LGBTQIA+ (Crystal Squires)

Commissioner Squires stated she has been speaking with Sophie, her co-presenter, who has reported her travel costs will be \$62.52 for mileage. She suggested the Commission give her \$100 to also cover food and incidentals.

Commissioner Squires stated Sophie intends to come up the Friday before the event, noting she is open to the Commission's suggestion if they go to dinner.

Commissioner Squires stated she and Sophie are working on a slideshow presentation to include general information on LGBTQIA+ including what the letters stand for and the various flags. She stated Sophie will delve deeper into transgender issues and laws surrounding this, how to be a good ally and how to be a good workplace. She stated the PRIDE Board has approved a \$250 level sponsorship of the October event, noting their intent to pay on-line. Ms. Schober confirmed this level will include placement of the group's logo on the flyers and on social media. Commissioner Squires stated she will provide the flyer for this event as she already has a mock-up completed. She stated she will email the Opera House with her needs closer to the event. She also stated she is attempting to find a local bakery to make cookies with the various PRIDE flags. Commissioner Squires confirmed she will provide Ms. Schober with a copy of the presentation prior to the event for feedback.

Chairperson Vega lost audio connection to the meeting at 4:43 PM.

Noting she has a friend who celebrates the secular holidays of Yule and St. Nicholas Day, Commissioner Squires stated she would take on these as part of the December 12 – World Holidays event, opining perhaps each Commissioner will take on a different holiday(s).

Chairperson Vega reconnected to the meeting at 4:48 PM.

November 14 – Understanding Race

Noting the resignation of Commissioner Curtis Price, Ms. Schober stated someone else will have to take over this event. Chairperson Vega noted this is a very important topic and stated she will take it over with everyone's help. She will also go back to her contacts for assistance.

Brief discussion ensued of the World Holidays event, with it being noted this is a whole Commission event. Commissioner Squires stated she will also do Winter Solstice in addition to Yule and St. Nicholas Day.

A brief discussion ensued of the membership of the Commission and the need for replacing Mr. Price.

c. Next Meeting Date

It was the consensus of the Commission to schedule the next meeting for Monday, September 27, 2021 at 4:15 PM.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments forthcoming from the Public.

6. OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Chairperson Vega asked to make sure everyone is invited to dinner with Sophie, asking Commissioner Squires to set this up for October 9, including the time and place.

Commissioner Rivera stated a group including Mayor Turner, Mayor Emeritus Sager, himself and others will be leaving for Mexico on September 13 to visit Guadalupe and Zacatecas, staying five or six days.

ADJOURN

Motion by J. Krandel, second by C. Squires, to adjourn this Special Meeting of the Cultural and Social Awareness Commission, to a Special Meeting at 4:15 PM on Monday, September 27, 2021 in the Council Chambers at Woodstock City Hall.

Ayes: Krandel, Rivera, Squires and Chairperson Vega. Nays: none. Abstentions: none. Absentees: Kendall and Starzynski. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Smiley,
City Clerk



Office of the City Clerk

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Jane Howie, Chief Deputy Clerk

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AGENDA

**CITY OF WOODSTOCK
CULTURAL AND SOCIAL AWARENESS COMMISSION**

Monday, August 30, 2021

4:15 p.m.

A Special Meeting of the Cultural and Social Awareness Commission will be held REMOTELY on **Monday, August 30, 2021 at 4:15 PM**. In light of the current COVID-19 public health emergency, Governor J.B. Pritzker's Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, the Mayor has determined that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of the disaster. This meeting will be held remotely only via ZOOM. The public can observe and comment, when appropriate, by connecting online at:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/98220326801?pwd=cUM2NlpEanEyVVB2MXB0TUtuVW5HQQT09>

Passcode: 875891 or One-tap mobile: 312-626-6799 Webinar ID: 982 2032 6801

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Acceptance of Minutes – July 12, 2021 and August 2, 2021 meetings
4. Discussion Items
 - a. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Program - Diversity Celebration Sunday Series - Marketing & Advertising Sources: Chamber, City website, City Community Sign, Square Info Boards, Facebook (Chamber, City), others?
 - b. Update on activities from the meeting coordinator(s)
 - 1) **August 8 – Shelter & Food Disparity** (Commissioner Kendall) – Pioneer Center, Compassion for Campers and Woodstock Public Library Food Pantry – How did it go?
 - 2) **September 12 - Religions** (Jaci Krandel) – FaithBridge, Judaism, Islam, Baha'i and Buddhism
What assistance is needed for this event?
 - 3) **October 10 – LGBTQIA+** (Crystal Squires) – PRIDE
 - 4) **November 14 - Understanding Race** (Curtis Price) - Standing Up Against Racism and/or BLM
 - 5) **December 12 – World Holidays**
 - 6) **2022 - Age Diversity / Age Friendly Community** (Juanita Vega) - Andrew Celentano and/or Terry Willcockson
 - 7) **2022 - Working toward DEI in the environmental world** (Joe Starzynski) -Cynthia Kanner – EDMC
 - c. Next Meeting date
5. Public Comments
6. Other Discussion Items

7. Adjourn

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this meeting is located in a facility that is physically accessible to those who have disabilities and is being conducted via ZOOM. If additional reasonable accommodations are necessary for persons who under the Act have a “disability” please contact the HR Department at (815) 338-1172 at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.